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6 April 1968

MEMORANDUM FOR: Paul A. Finkel, ADJUTANT

SUBJECT: Your 1 April memorandum re emergency planning

1. I regret that (a) your memo did not arrive until after I had passed the basic paper to CO and therefore I did not know detailed comment was requested, and (b) inasmuch as we do not have storage facilities for this classification of material I read the paper rapidly while the courier waited.

2. In any event, presumably OBI comment would essentially be concentrated on NIS aspects. I noted two points, which under the circumstances I cannot identify by paragraph numbering.

3. First, it was proposed that under the assumed circumstances the NIS Committee would be terminated. I point out that in earlier discussions of this subject the point had been made, and seemed to have considerable acceptance, that under emergency conditions and in a non-formal way the Committee membership would serve as a means of identifying and marshalling specialized substantive and production capabilities previously in effective operation for NIS production. This would, on the basis of personalized experience, go beyond formal missions and organizations and into the area of which individual components and indeed individuals might promise to be most productive of a given type of material under pressure circumstances.

4. Secondly, I believe it was noted that OBI geographic graphics components and the photographic people would be prime sources for immediate emergency tapping for substantive material, but no mention was made of OBI and the NIS. I think this overlooks significant OBI/NIS potential. In this connection I do not recall -- although expedited reading of the basic document might be responsible for oversight -- mention of scattered and protected stores of published NIS, nor of manuscript and graphics in negative form held at Vital Materials Repository and available for emergency reproduction at an interior commercial plant under a cut-out contingency contract. These latter facts have been noted in prior emergency planning papers.

5. OBI personnel of course would represent a body of specialized know-how, would be familiar with production components and personnel, and would be capable of facilitating substantive adaptations in the Vital Materials Holdings.

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